

HOUSE RESOLUTION 3

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Carl E. Johnson, Sr.,
for meritorious service to the citizens of
Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable Tennesseans who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Carl E. Johnson, Sr., is one such estimable person who, as a scientist, educator, contractor, politician, and farmer, evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, born October 2, 1935, in Memphis, Carl Johnson graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis, earning an Industrial Arts Certificate in 1953; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson studied Diagnostic Bacteriology at the U.S. Fourth Army Medical Laboratory in 1958, before receiving a Bachelor of Science degree from LeMoyne-Owen College in 1961; and

WHEREAS, a committed and lifelong learner, Carl Johnson furthered his education by earning a Public Policy Development Certificate at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. in 1968, a Grantsmanship Certificate from National Graduate University in 1975, his Masters degree in Education from Memphis State University in 1975, and from 1961 to 1986, he was certified by the State of Tennessee to teach General Science, Biology, Physics, and Chemistry; and

WHEREAS, in a prestigious career marked by faithful service and dynamic leadership, Mr. Johnson served with the greatest proficiency and alacrity at Shelby State Community College in Memphis; from 1979 to 1991, Carl Johnson held the posts of Instructional Developer, Coordinator of Conferences and Institutes, Coordinator of Special Projects, Director of

Community and Legislative Relations, Director of Governmental Relations, and Director of Alumni Relations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson has also served the good citizens of Shelby County with great probity as Memphis City Government's Title VI Coordinator - Division of Public Works, Administrator of Maintenance, Director of Legislative and Community Affairs, and Special Assistant to the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, an astute businessman, Carl Johnson is the owner of Walnut Service Center Construction Group and has served as a consultant in the areas of Education, Housing, and Governmental Relations for The Walnut Group; and

WHEREAS, active in the political arena, Mr. Johnson has been elected to serve as Board Commissioner for the Memphis City Schools Board of Education from 1971 to present, and he served as Board President in 1989 and in 2002; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure with the Memphis City Schools, Carl Johnson has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to this State; and

WHEREAS, this outstanding gentleman has also been appointed to the Advisory Board of WPTY Cablevision; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson is affiliated with numerous professional organizations, including the Southern Regional Minority Council, Alpha Kappa Mu, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association of University Professors, American Biology Association, American Radio Relay League, American Society of Microbiologists, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, LeMoyne-Owen Alumni Association, Memphis City Schools' Mental Health Center Board, Memphis Mental Health Council, Memphis State Alumni Association, National Association for the Advancement of Black Americans in Vocational Education, National Caucus of Black School Board Members, National School Boards Association - Seminar Leader 1986, National Science Teachers Association, Suzuki Talent Education Association of Memphis, Tennessee School Boards Association – Convention Committee 1979, World Future Society, Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators,

Tennessee Black Leadership Roundtable, and the Memphis Area Minority Contractors Association; and

WHEREAS, committed to giving back to his community, Carl Johnson is actively involved with such civic and social groups as the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Beale Street Repertory Company, Memphis Urban League, NAACP (Board of Directors), Boy Scouts of America (Board of Directors), People United to Save Humanity (PUSH), PTA – Overton High School, Smithsonian Institution, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson is also a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Landmarks Commission and the Memphis Heritage Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Carl Johnson's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Johnson is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Christine Currin Johnson, his son, Carl Everett Johnson, Jr., and his daughter, Cheryl Cerise Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Carl Johnson is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized for his many professional achievements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and commend Carl E. Johnson, Sr., for his honorable and astute service to the citizens of Tennessee as a scientist, educator, contractor, politician, and farmer and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.